



DJJ Partnership

[**Current Issue**](#)[**Archived Issues**](#)[**DJJ Homepage**](#)**Inside this issue:**[**Housing projects gets boost from JCC staff**](#)[**Combined Virginia Campaign**](#)[**Innovative parole planning**](#)[**Old hand but new leader**](#)[**Bowling champ**](#)[**Gang reduction efforts**](#)[**Staff updates**](#)[**Jobs for teens**](#)[**VJJA news**](#)[**Residents take on project**](#)[**Employees honored**](#)[**New board appointee**](#)[**Human Resources facts**](#)[**Training update**](#)[**Legal guidance**](#)**Volume 5, Issue I****January 2009**

Director's Comments

Here we are again, ending one year and beginning another. Much is happening and changing in the world – some very good and some very bad, and it's up to us to make the best of it all, no matter how challenging.

The economy is painful and that makes it tough on everyone (for some, it's much tougher than for others). But I've seen fellow employees take more and more on themselves – both relating to work and to their friends and neighbors, and even strangers. They've given of their personal resources, volunteered their time, and talked with people who just need someone to talk with. It really seems to me that as the news reports get worse, what's good in all of us gets better.

I've been accused of being a perennial pessimist, and I guess there's some truth to that accusation. However, I can't help but be hopeful that what's good about humanity will take care of us in the end. Thank you to all of you for what you do every day, and particularly for what you're doing now. We will continue to make a difference in the lives of the young people with whom we work and in the lives of all of those around us.

Have a healthy and happy holiday season, whatever holidays you and your families celebrate. Even with my pessimistic streak, I still feel that 2009 is going to be a good year.

**Barry Green**